

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UN

SUBJ: PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS AT NATO

REF: STATE 165679

SUMMARY: POLADS ON JULY 15 REACHED AD REFERENDUM AGREEMENT THAT PRE-UNGA CONSULTATION TAKE PLACE IN NAC JULY 23 WITH ATTENDANCE BY HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIALS FROM CAPITALS. POLADS CHAIRMAN ASKED TO BE INFORMED BY NOON, JULY 17 WHETHER MR. BUFFUM WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND CONSULTATION. RECOMMENDATION: THAT, IN VIEW OF ALLIED WILLINGNESS TO HOLD HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATION IN NAC, MR. BUFFUM OR ONE OF HIS DEPUTIES ATTEND CONSULTATION ON JULY 23. REQUEST GUIDANCE BY OOB JULY 17. END SUMMARY.

1. AT JULY 15 POLADS MEETING, CHAIRMAN (KASTL) CONDUCTED TOUR DE TABLE TO DETERMINE ACCEPTABILITY OF JULY 23 DATE AS WELL AS LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION PLANNED FROM CAPITALS. FRG, UK, FRANCE AND ITALY SAID THEY FAVORED CONSULTATIONS AND WOULD SEND HIGHEST AVAILABLE OFFICIALS WHO DEAL WITH UN MATTERS. FRG AND UK INDICATED PREFERENCE FOR JULY 22 AS DATE BUT, AS CONFIDENTIAL

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DISCUSSION FOCUSSED ON JULY 23, THEY DISPLAYED READINESS TO ACCEPT THIS LATTER DATE IN INTEREST OF REACHING CONSENSUS. MOST OTHER DELEGATIONS ALSO EXPRESSED READINESS TO SEND OFFICIALS ON JULY 23, THOUGH THEY INDICATED THAT BECAUSE

OF VACATION PERIOD REPRESENTATION WOULD NOT BE AS SENIOR AS THEY WOULD HAVE LIKED. CANADA, DENMARK AND GREECE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SEND REPS FROM THEIR CAPITALS.

2. THERE CONTINUED TO BE SOME SENTIMENT THAT POLADS, AS TRADITIONAL FORUM FOR UNGA CONSULTATION, SHOULD BE SCENE OF THIS YEAR'S DISCUSSIONS. US REP SAID THAT IN LIGHT OF ALLIED REACTIONS THUS FAR, WASHINGTON WAS RESERVING JUDGEMENT ON THIS QUESTION AND LEVEL OF ITS PARTICIPATION IN PLANNED CONSULTATION. US REP STRESSED THAT WE ARE HOPING FOR BROAD-GAUGED DISCUSSION OF BASIC ISSUES AMONG HIGH OFFICIALS, ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT SEEKING TO FORCE SUCH AN EXCHANGE ON RELUCTANT ALLIES.

3. US COMMENTS PROVOKED EXPRESSIONS OF DISAPPOINTMENT FROM SOME REPS, PARTICULARLY FRG, UK AND ITALY, WHO INSISTED THEIR AUTHORITIES ALSO HOPED FOR SUCH AN EXCHANGE. SEVERAL SMALLER ALLIES (NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, NORWAY, PORTUGAL) SAID THEY WOULD SEND HIGHEST AVAILABLE OFFICIALS. CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT CONSULTATION BE HELD WITH NAC, SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION OF MR. BUFFUM'S ATTENDANCE, BY NOON JULY 17. CHAIRMAN'S SUGGESTION WAS ACCEPTED.

4. BECAUSE OF SHORT TIME REMAINING, NO FORMAL AGENDA WAS AGREED UPON. FOLLOWING LIST OF TOPIKS WAS DRAWN UP WHICH REPS FROM CAPITALS MAY DISCUSS IF THEY WISH: A) KOREA; B) POSSIBLE MOVES TOWARD EXPULSION OF ISRAEL; C) MIDDLE EAST; D) SOUTHERN AFRICA; E) PEACEKEEPING; F) REFORM OF UN INSTITUTIONS. FRANCE AND ITALY HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT LISTING ISRAEL ITEM BECAUSE OF CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE LEAKS.

5. A MEMBER OF REPS NOTED THAT NEW DEVELOPMENTS MIGHT MAKE A FURTHER CONSULTATION AT EXPERTS LEVEL DESIRABLE IN SEPTEMBER. COMMITTEE AGREED THAT DURING JULY 23 NAC DESIRABILITY

HOLDING SUCH A FURTHER CONSULTATION IN SEPTEMBER COULD BE DISCUSSED.
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6. AT PERMREPS' LUNCH TODAY, JULY 15, SEVERAL ALLIES RAISED SUBJECT OF UN CONSULTATION AND EXPRESSED FORCEFULLY AND PERSISTENTLY THEIR DESIRE THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM APPEAR BEFORE THE COUNCIL ON JULY 23.

7. COMMENT: JULY 15 POLAD MEETING AND PERMPRE LUNCH OF SAME DAY USEFUL IN SHOWING THAT MOST ALLIES WOULD WARMLY WELCOME AN EXCHANGE IN NATO AT THIS TIME. THEY WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED TO HERE FROM MR. BUFFUM ABOUT LATEST US THINKING ON BASIC UN ISSUES, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE SECRETARY'S MILWAUKEE SPEECH. CONSENSUS TO HOLD THIS CONSULTATION WITH NAC, DESPITE EARLIER PREFERENCE OF SEVERAL DELS FOR POLADS AS FORUM, INDICATES IMPORTANCE ALLIES ATTACH TO THIS MEETING. TO CALL OFF CONSULTATION AT THIS LATE DATE WOULD BE SEVERELY DISAPPOINTING TO ALLIES, MANY OF WHOM

HAVE MADE STRONG EFFORT TO SEND BEST AVAILABLE REPRESENTATIVE.
END COMMENT.

8. RECOMMENDATION: THAT, IN VIEW OF EVIDENT ALLIED INTEREST IN
HIGHLEVEL CONSULTATIONS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM CONSIDER
COMING TO JULY 23 NAC MEETING OR, BARRING THAT POSSIBILITY, THAT
HE SEND A DEPUTY.

9. REQUEST GUIDANCE BY OOB JULY 17, 1975.BRUCE

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